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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

USA Patent Application
Jürgen Ehret, et al
Serial No.: 10/025,197
Filed: December 19, 2001
DOOR LOCK HAVING A CLOSING AID

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Group art unit: 3627

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Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Respectfully submitted herewith is a copy of a German Patent Office Search Report (4 pages) from the parallel German application 100 64 914.9 of which the present application claims priority, together with copies of its 9 cited references.

In the German Patent Office Search Report the references listed in category A mean these documents define the general background state of the art. The references listed in category Y mean these documents are of particular relevance with respect to the listed claims; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when these documents are combined with each other, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. The references listed in category X mean that these documents are of particular relevance, and the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when these documents are taken alone with respect to the listed claims.

In the German Patent Office Search Report the words "Kategorie" means category, "Ermittelte Druckschriften/Erläuterungen" means transmitted publications/explanations, "Kategorie" means category, "Betrifft Anspruch" means concerning claim, "Anspr." means claim(s), "Fig.", means Fig. or illustration, "Sp." means column, and "Z." means lines, "u." means and, "Ganze Schrift" means entire patents. Since this translation now points out in English the relevant portions of the citations listed in the

German Patent Office Search Report, and since the US patent is in the English language, no further concise explanation is required under 1138 OG 38. Nevertheless please see Figs. and corresponding text of the references for relevance.

Two PTO-1449 forms are presented listing the 9 submitted references.

Translations of the foreign language references are not available to the undersigned.

This submission meets the requirements of 37 CFR §1.56, 1.97 and 1.98(a) and MPEP 609.

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MAR 29 2002

Respectfully submitted

Jürgen Ehret, et al

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by:

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR SECTION 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement, German Patent Office Search Report, 2 PTO-1449 forms and 9 references are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 26, 2002.

Dated: March 26, 2002

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